

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 079808

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, UR (KENNEDY, EDWARD M.)

SUBJECT: CODEL KENNEDY

REF: STATE 079002

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING FROM GOV. HARRIMAN - PERSONAL TO
SENATOR KENNEDY:

SUPPLEMENTING MY DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT MOSCOW
SPEECHES. ON REREADING, I FEEL THE MOSCOW SPEECH IS HERE
AND THERE A LITTLE TOO HARD AND BELLIGERENT IN TONE FOR
A UNIVERSITY AUDIENCE NOT AS WELL INFORMED ON WORLD AFFAIRS
AS OUR STUDENTS. FOR EXAMPLE:

P.7, LINES 3 & 4 I BELIEVE WOULD SOUND BETTER IF IT
WERE CHANGED TO READ "THE LEADERS OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES
FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT NUCLEAR WAR MEANS MUTUAL SUICIDE." I
WOULD CUT THE WORD "STRATEGIC." IT IS UNNECESSARY AND
COULD BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN YOU ARE INDIRECTLY SUPPORTING
TACTICAL NUCLEAR WAR, AN APPALLING ISSUE THAT IT IS
UNNECESSARY TO RAISE.

P.8, THIRD SENTENCE OF 2ND PARAGRAPH REGARDING MIDDLE
EAST. SUGGEST IT BE REWRITTEN TO READ SOMETHING ALONG
FOLLOWING LINES. "IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN PARTICULAR, UNLESS
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GREAT CARE IS WISELY EXERCISED, THE CONFLICT THERE COULD

LEAD TO A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN US." MY REASON FOR THIS IS
THAT I FEEL IT WOULD BE A REAL SHOCK TO THIS AUDIENCE IF

YOU SPEAK BLUNTLY OF WAR BETWEEN US.

P.11. I WOULD CUT THE SENTENCE "AND LET THERE BE NO
MISTAKE." TO ME IT IS TOO THREATENING.

CHANGES I HAVE SUGGESTED HERE AND IN MY PREVIOUS
MESSAGE WILL NOT, I FEEL, ADVERSELY AFFECT ANY IMPACT
HERE AT HOME AND WILL AVOID OFFENDING YOUR MOSCOW STUDENT
AUDIENCE.

I ASSUME YOU WILL TAKE THE MARVELOUS OPPORTUNITY IN
YOUR TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS TO DISCUSS ALL THESE
SUBJECTS FRANKLY AND IN DEPTH. KISSINGER

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